

EXPLOSIVES SAFETY

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LTG MARVIN D. BRAILSFORD IS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR EXPLOSIVES SAFETY (EDES)

(Editor's note: On 11 June 1990, LTG Marvin D. Brailsford was sworn in as the Deputy Commanding General for Materiel Readiness, HQ, AMC. In conjunction with his new job, he is also the Army's EDES. In the following memorandum, LTG Brailsford shares some thoughts on his new job as EDES).

It is with great pleasure that I assume my duties as the Army Executive Director for Explosives Safety. I see explosives safety as a combat multiplier directly influencing our ability to conduct wartime operations successfully, but also contributing to the well-being of soldiers, civilians, and communities during peacetime. The explosives safety job requires emphasis by the entire ammunition community. Commanders and supervisors at all levels must routinely stress the hazards associated with even our smallest explosive devices. Explosives are blind to their victim. They can't differentiate between intended and unintended acts or between friendly and enemy forces. When initiated, they tend to complete a cycle which is meant to injure or kill.

As EDES, my job is to develop and execute the Army Explosives Safety Program pursuant to policies established by Department of Defense (DOD) and Department of the Army (DA). My goal is to help you, the soldier and civilian in the ammunition/explosives business, to "do it right." Although you work in several major Army commands (MACOMs), I want to help you in any way I can. No matter what your ammunition/explosives safety problem, I want technical assistance available when you need it. The U.S. Army Technical Center for Explosives Safety (USATCES) was created to provide this service and support to all the MACOMs.

The goal of the DA Explosives Safety Program is to provide the maximum possible protection to people and property from the dangerous effects of accidents involving ammunition and explosives. To achieve this DA goal, the USATCES has established the following internal goals:

- a. Strengthen Army explosives regulations.
- b. Improve the quality of site and general construction plan preparations and reviews to streamline the approval process.
- c. Establish a strong Army waiver/exemption program and identify an Army funding mechanism for violation elimination.
- d. Establish an Army Explosives Safety Testing Management Program.
- e. Publicize and expand the Army Explosives Safety Technical Library and the Explosives Safety Information Data Base (ESIDB).

During this period of reduced resources, personnel reductions, and the changing situation around the world, we can expect to see consolidations of our ammunition stockpile. These ammunition relocations must be accomplished safely. I ask for your support and assistance. Your support to the explosives safety program will contribute to the safe achievement of Army readiness.


MARVIN D. BRAILSFORD
Lieutenant General, USA
Executive Director for
Explosives Safety

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY (DA) EXPLOSIVES SAFETY STANDARDS

Updated drafts of the revised AR 385-64, Ammunition and Explosives Safety Standards, and the new DAP 385-64, Ammunition and Explosives Safety Standards, have been forwarded to the major Army commands (MACOMs) and Army Staff for final review and concurrence prior to the final DA edit and printing. The revised AR is an updated compilation of AR 385-26, Use of Explosives and Pyrotechnics in Public Demonstrations, Exhibitions, and Celebrations; AR 385-60, Coordination with Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board; AR 385-64, Ammunition and Explosives Safety Standards; and AR 385-65, Identification of Inert Ammunition and Ammunition Components. It provides the policy, procedures, and responsibilities for explosives safety within the Army for personnel working with ammunition and explosives.

These draft publications are the culmination of three years of effort by the U.S. Army Technical Center for Explosives Safety (USATCES), U.S. Army Safety Center (USASC), and the MACOMs. Two MACOM working group meetings were held at USATCES to evaluate and consolidate individual MACOM comments to the coordinating draft and the final draft of the standards. Final edit by USASC produced the version currently undergoing review. The Army goal is to print by the end of calendar year 1990 (CY 90).

by: Melvin L. Colberg
Logistics Management Specialist
DSN 585-8742

REQUIREMENTS FOR DELUGE FOR DEPOT-TYPE RENOVATION OPERATIONS INVOLVING EXPOSED PROPELLANT

Are deluge systems required for depot-type renovation operations? Some depot maintenance work requirements (DMWR) require deluge, others don't. In reality, a hazards analysis can determine the need for deluge systems. Such a hazards analysis must be performed locally. If the applicable DMWR requires deluge but the local hazards analysis shows that adequate safety can be provided otherwise, operations could be conducted with major Army command (MACOM) review and approval (within AMC, AMCCOM and DESCOM can approve). A waiver is not required. As a long-term measure, installation of deluge systems should be pursued to allow greater ability to perform a wide variety of renovation operations.

by: Clifford H. Doyle
Safety and Occupational Health Manager
DSN 585-8741

CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR PERSONNEL WORKING WITH AMMUNITION AND/OR EXPLOSIVES

A presentation was made to the Department of the Army Explosives Safety Council (DAESC) on the need for an Army-wide certification program. Efforts are underway on developing a model certification program which may be used by the MACOMs to establish or improve existing certification programs.

The goal for certification is to ensure that personnel working with live ammunition and/or explosives have the required training and/or experience, meet medical requirements, and are qualified to work with these items in a safe, professional manner.

To ensure personnel have the necessary training and skills, and meet appropriate medical requirements, two AMCCOM supplements (one for contractor operated and one for Government operated) to AMCR 350-4, Training and Certification Program for Personnel Working in Ammunition Operations, have been prepared. These supplements direct that explosives workers at AMCCOM installations and activities become qualified and certified for critical job positions that involve munitions receipt, issue, storage, transportation, maintenance, production, and demilitarization. The supplements set standards for becoming certified. The Government-owned contractor operated (GOCO) supplement is planned to be implemented at Iowa Army Ammunition Plant (IAAP) in FY 90.

by: Robert H. Davidson
Industrial Engineer
DSN 585-8627

EXPLOSIVES SAFETY/CERTIFICATION TRAINING

Are you interested in getting a little training in order to improve your job skills and/or promotion potential? If so, the U.S. Army Defense Ammunition Center and School (USADACS) has just the thing for you. The Ammunition School, the training arm of USADACS, has seven courses available to make you smart in the area of explosives safety and in technical areas related to ammunition and explosives.

Explosives safety oriented courses include the U.S. Army Explosive Safety Course (AMMO-C-22), Explosive Safety for Facility Planning [ES-305] (AMMO-C-15), and Basics of Explosive Hazard Control [ES-310] (AMMO-C-21). ES-305 and ES-310 are U.S. Navy (USN) courses while the U.S. Army Explosive Safety Course provides training for Army Safety Interns, Safety Specialists, and Safety Engineers.

Certification courses include the Technical Ammunition Course (AMMO-C-3), Special Technical Ammunition Course (AMMO-C-9), Ammunition Maintenance Course (AMMO-C-4), and Ammunition Demilitarization Course (AMMO-C-5).

These certification courses provide excellent technical related training for any personnel dealing with ammunition and explosives.

Course lengths for each course are as follows:

AMMO-C-22	13 Days
AMMO-C-15	5 Days
AMMO-C-21	5 Days
AMMO-C-3	7 Weeks, 3 Days
AMMO-C-9	8 Days
AMMO-C-4	4 Weeks
AMMO-C-5	2 Weeks, 3 Days

Additional information on these or any course presented at USADACS may be obtained by contacting Mr. Stephen R. Dragan, SMCAC-ASC, DSN 585-8845. Registration, space availability, and/or dates for specific courses may be obtained from the Office of the Secretariat, SMCAC-ASA, DSN 585-8931.

by: Barbara J. Overton
Acting Chief, Ammunition School
DSN 585-8939

THE OFFICE OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR

The U.S. Army Materiel Command (AMC) has nine toxic chemical agent surety laboratories in CONUS that monitor/support the life cycle management of large quantities of U.S. chemical agent inventories.

Recognizing the need to provide the DOD community assurance that the analytical data generated at each laboratory could be verified and correlated with the national standards, a Standardized Laboratory Analytical Procedures (SLAPS) program is being initiated at the U.S. Army Defense Ammunition Center and School (USADACS). This program was initially sponsored by the U.S. Army Materiel Command Field Safety Activity (AMCFSA).

The objectives of the SLAPS program are to provide AMC chemical surety laboratories a system for Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) monitoring to meet regulatory requirements, define and install a prototype teaching laboratory analytical system, and develop an operator training curriculum.

Information or questions on the SLAPS program should be addressed to Director, U.S. Army Technical Center for Explosives Safety, ATTN: SMCAC-ESS, Savanna, IL 61074-9639 or contact Richard Albrecht at DSN 585-8807.

by: Solim S. W. Kwak, Ph.D.
Physical Scientist
DSN 585-8620

INFORMATION DATA BASE

Response to the Explosives Safety Information Data Base (ESIDB) has been excellent. We are getting requests from all corners of the community and even other services.

We hope those of you that have logged onto the system have had time to come up with suggestions for us. Keep in mind that this system is only as good as you, the user, make it. We can do the programming, but we need feedback from you to know what changes and upgrades to make.

We're also looking for information on explosives safety related data bases. If you know of any or have even heard a strong rumor about one, please pass the information on to us.

by: Donald G. Van Name
Tech Data Base Coordinator
DSN 585-8751

EXPLOSIVES SAFETY QUESTION

Q. The smallest amount listed in the DOD Hazard Class/Division (HC/D) 1.3 quantity distance (QD) table in AR 385-64 is 1,000 pounds net explosive weight (NEW) and the minimum distance for this amount is 75 feet. If we have less than 1,000 pounds, is there any way we can use less distance?

A. Perhaps. Distances less than 75 feet may be used if supported by test or analysis. Recently, the U.S. Army Technical Center for Explosives Safety (USATCES) analyzed storage of 75mm salute charges (small quantity) stored very close to a public highway and justified a much reduced distance. If you have a similar need concerning HC/D 1.3 materials, don't hesitate to call. We may be able to help.

by: Clifford H. Doyle
Safety and Occupational Health Manager
DSN 585-8741

NEW DATA FAX NUMBER

The USATCES has a new DATAFAX number! Send FAX to DSN 585-8769, commercial (815) 273-8769. Confirm receipt at DSN 585-8771.

The EXPLOSIVES SAFETY BULLETIN targets the ammunition/explosives community. It is printed in Savanna, Illinois.

If you wish to submit an article that is of interest to the ammunition/explosives community, or if you have a request for more copies of the bulletin, please forward it to: Director, U.S. Army Technical Center for Explosives Safety, ATTN: SMCAC-ES, Savanna, IL 61074-9639.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY DEFENSE AMMUNITION CENTER AND SCHOOL
SAVANNA, ILLINOIS 61074-9639

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TELEPHONE NUMBERS

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR:

DSN 585-8919
Commercial (815) 273-8919

**OFFICE OF THE SCIENTIFIC
ADVISOR:**

DSN 585-8620
Commercial (815) 273-8620

**LOGISTICS EXPLOSIVES
SAFETY DIVISION:**

DSN 585-8801
Commercial (815) 273-8801

**DEVELOPMENT AND
PRODUCTION EXPLOSIVES
SAFETY DIVISION:**

DSN 585-8808
Commercial (815) 273-8808

**PROGRAM MANAGEMENT
AND DATA DIVISION:**

DSN 585-8745
Commercial (815) 273-8745

**EXPLOSIVES SAFETY
TECHNICAL LIBRARY:**

DSN 585-8771
Commercial (815) 273-8771

HOTLINE:

DSN 585-6030
Commercial (815) 273-6030

MAILING ADDRESS

DIRECTOR
U.S. Army Technical Center for
Explosives Safety
ATTN: SMCAC-ES
Savanna, IL 61074-9639

ARPANET/PRIME
OACIES@RIA-EMH1.ARMY-
MIL

MSG ADDRESS - DIRUSADACS
SAVANNA IL//SMCAC-ES//

DATAFAX - DSN 585-8769